Title of Recommendation	PPB officers to request Trauma Intervention Program (TIP)		
Author(s): (Subcommittee or committee members)	Racial Equity and Behavioral Health	Date presented	Presented / Approved 1/26/2021

Summary of Recommendation:

The PCCEP recommends that:

- A. Portland Police Bureau (PPB) develop and implement a process whereby all PPB officers will be trained to request the Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) through the Bureau of Emergency Communications (BOEC) for all lethal force incidents.
- B. PPB to update the After Action Reports Checklist to include check-box Question- TIP was requested.

Explanation of recommendation:

PCCEP continues to host community listening sessions for people to give input about policing practices in Portland. We have heard from hundreds of community members since late Spring 2020.

Police violence has collateral consequences of carceral grief – or, mourning associated with the death of a loved one at the hands of the criminal legal system. Interactions with the police elicit fear, anxiety, and hypervigilance, especially among socially marginalized populations and is a threat to public health.

The PCCEP Behavioral Health Subcommittee and Racial Equity Subcommittee hosted a joint forum in November 2020. We heard from the community and staff from BOEC and TIP about the need for trauma related services for individuals impacted by police violence, their family members and bystanders who were impacted by violence.

TIP is a group of specially trained citizen volunteers who provide emotional aid, practical support and resources to victims of traumatic events and their families in the first few hours following a tragedy. TIP has been providing services in our community for over 20 years, and adhere to their motto: Our citizen volunteers provide emotional first aid to survivors of tragedy in order to ease their immediate suffering and facilitate their healing and long term recovery. TIP volunteers are neutral participants in every situation. Their focus is to support people experiencing trauma without judgement to the

circumstances. They have experience working with emergency responders and work hard to maintain trust with their partners. Additionally, some BOEC staff are also volunteers with TIP.			

How does this recommendation redress barriers to racial equity?

The American Public Health Associate (APHA) reports that Black and Brown people are more likely than Whites to grieve during their lifetimes. They are also over 3 times more likely to be killed by police use of force. With increased health risks and a lack of resources, this recommendation seeks to extend access to people of color who are impacted by police violence.

How does this recommendation improve outcomes for people with behavioral health issues, challenges and /or in crisis?

This recommendation seeks to bring immediate comfort to loved ones of those impacted by violence. TIP staff also triage and do a warm handoff to community resources. How were marginalized and underrepresented communities, including those who will be affected by this recommendation, engaged to shape, write and otherwise develop this recommendation?

Not only has PCCEP held numerous listening sessions since the murder of George Floyd where community members shared their thoughts on changes that can have a positive impact on our community, there is also growing research that states that physical and psychological violence perpetrated by police results in deaths, injuries, trauma, and stress that disproportionately affect marginalized populations (e.g., people of color; immigrants; individuals experiencing houselessness; people with disabilities; the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer [LGBTQ] community; individuals with mental illness; people who use drugs; and sex workers). This recommendation is in response to community need.

Resources

- 1. PCCEP RE August 20, 2020 meeting
- 2. PCCEP BH/RE November 19, 2020 meeting
- 3. Article: The collateral consequences of state-sanctioned police violence for women
- 4. Article: Addressing Law Enforcement Violence as a Public Health Issue
- 5. <u>Trauma Intervention Program</u>
- 6. 911 Bureau of Emergency Communications